

Appl. No. 09/972,167

Amdt. Dated August 31, 2005

Reply to Office Action of July 1, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-identified application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for geographically referencing an improvement image comprising the steps of:

superimposing position data upon the improvement image, the superimposed position data denoting geographic positions and image positions of at least two image reference points that depict features,

extracting image positions the superimposed position data of the at least two image reference points, the reference points depicting features that each have a known geographic position;

interpreting geographic positions for the features based on the extracted superimposed position data,

computing a geographic distance between the features,

determining a geographic direction between the features,

interpreting image positions for the features based on the extracted superimposed position data,

computing an image distance between the features,

determining an image direction between the features, and

determining an improvement image scale factor based on the computed geographic distance between the features and the computed image distance between the features.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying said improvement image.

Claims 3-5 (canceled).

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Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of determining an improvement image reference translation.

Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of determining an improvement image rotation angle.

Claim 8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of expressing the geographic positions in latitude and longitude.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of expressing the geographic distance in nautical miles.

Claims 11-16 (canceled).

Claim 17 (currently amended): The method of claim [[16]] 6, further comprising the step of translating the improvement image in accordance with the reference translation.

Claim 18 (canceled).

Claim 19 (currently amended): The method of claim [[18]] 7, further comprising the step of rotating the improvement image in an amount sufficient to compensate for the rotation angle.

Claim 20 (canceled).

Claim 21 (currently amended): The method of claim [[11]] 1, further comprising the step of scaling the improvement image in an amount sufficient to compensate for the improvement image scale factor.

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Claim 22 (currently amended): A method for combining an improvement image with geographically referenced information to produce a composite image, the method comprising the steps of:

superimposing position data upon the improvement image, the superimposed position data denoting geographic positions and image positions of at least two image reference points that depict features,

extracting an image position the superimposed position data for each of the at least two image reference points, the reference points depicting features that each have a known geographic position,

interpreting a geographic position for each of the features based on the extracted superimposed position data,

computing a geographic distance between the features,

determining a geographic direction between the features,

interpreting image positions for each of the features based on the extracted superimposed position data,

computing an image distance between the features,

determining an image direction between the features,

determining an improvement image scale factor based on the computed geographic distance between the features and the computed image distance between the features,

determining an improvement image reference translation,

determining an improvement image rotation angle,

scaling the image based on the determined improvement image scale factor, and creating an output.

Claim 23 (original): The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of displaying said composite image.

Claim 24 (original): The method of claim 22, the output containing the improvement image reference translation.

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Claim 25 (original): The method of claim 22, the output containing the improvement image rotation angle.

Claim 26 (canceled).

Claim 27 (original): The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of creating a composite image based on said output.

Claim 28 (currently amended): A system for geographically referencing an improvement image, the system comprising a memory storage device in communication with a processor, the memory storage device configured to store an improvement image, the processor configured to perform the steps of:

superimposing position data upon the improvement image, the superimposed position data denoting geographic positions and image positions of at least two image reference points that depict features,

extracting an image positions the superimposed position data for each of the at least two image reference points, the reference points depicting features that each have a known geographic position,

interpreting geographic positions for the features based on the extracted superimposed position data,

computing a geographic distance between the features,

determining a geographic direction between the features,

interpreting image positions for the features based on the extracted superimposed position data.

computing an image distance between the features,

determining an image direction between the features, and

determining an improvement image scale factor based on the computed geographic distance between the features and the computed image distance between the features.

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Claim 29 (canceled).

Claim 30 (currently amended): A system for combining an improvement image with geographically referenced information, the system comprising a memory storage device in communication with a processor, the memory storage device configured to store the improvement image and the geographically referenced information, the processor configured to perform the steps of:

superimposing position data upon the improvement image, the superimposed position data denoting geographic positions and image positions of at least two image reference points that depict features,

extracting an image position the superimposed position data for each of the at least two image reference points, the reference points depicting features that each have a known geographic position,

interpreting a geographic position for each of the features based on the extracted superimposed position data,

computing a geographic distance between the features,

determining a geographic direction between the features,

interpreting image positions for each of the features based on the extracted superimposed position data,

computing an image distance between the features,

determining an image direction between the features,

determining an improvement image scale factor based on the computed geographic distance between the features and the computed image distance between the features,

determining an improvement image reference translation,

determining an improvement image rotation angle,

scaling the image based on the determined improvement image scale factor, and creating an output.